

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: March 7, 2011

Contact: Monique Farmer 402-995-2420 monique.l.farmer@usace.army.mil Mark Harberg 402-995-2554 mark.harberg@usace.army.mil

MRAPS Draft Scoping Summary Report Available Online

Omaha, Neb. - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has announced the release of the Draft Scoping Summary Report for the Missouri River Authorized Purposes Study (MRAPS). Comments received during the summer 2010 scoping period have been taken into account, analyzed and addressed by the Corps in the draft report. The draft report can be downloaded at http://www.mraps.org.

The Corps is hosting seven public feedback meetings to facilitate communication and feedback pertaining to the draft report. "The purpose of the feedback meetings is to provide a forum in which the public can offer their thoughts on the draft scoping summary report. We intend to verify that we accurately captured their comments during last summer's scoping period and encourage their thoughts on the Corps' initial response to those comments," said Mark Harberg, study co-manager.

The public feedback meetings will take place at the following locations:

Mar 28	Billings, Mont.	Crowne Plaza, 27 N. 27th St.
Mar 29	Bismarck, N.D.	Best Western Doublewood Inn, 1400 E. Interchange Ave.
Mar 30	Pierre, S.D.	Kings Inn Hotel & Conference Center, 110 E. Sioux Ave.
Mar 31	Sioux City, Iowa	Stoney Creek Inn, 300 3rd St.
Apr 4	Nebraska City, Neb.	Lied Lodge Conference Center, 2700 Sylvan Rd.
Apr 5	Kansas City, Kans.	Hilton Garden Inn, 520 Minnesota Ave
Apr 6	St. Louis, Mo.	Doubletree Hotel St. Louis at Westport, 1973 Craigshire Rd.

The public meetings will run from 5-7 p.m. with a Corps presentation from 5-6 p.m. The second hour (6-7 p.m.) will be a public speaker feedback period regarding the Draft Scoping Summary Report.

Feedback may be submitted at the public meetings or online through April 30, 2011, at http://www.mraps.org. Feedback can also be mailed to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas District; ATTN: MRAPS, Trisha Dorsey, PM-PF; 601 E. 12th Street; Kansas City, MO 64106; all mailings must be postmarked by April 30, 2011.

-more-

The MRAPS Draft Scoping Summary Report will be accessible at the following libraries near the public feedback meeting venues through April 30, 2011:

Billings, Mont. Parmly Billings Library, 510 N Broadway, Billings, MT 59101

Bismarck, N.D. Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library, 515 N 5th St., Bismarck, ND 58501

Pierre, S.D. Rawlings Municipal Library, 1000 E. Church St., Pierre, SD 57501

Sioux City, Iowa Sioux City Public Library, 529 Pierce St., Sioux City, IA 51106

Nebraska City, Neb. Morton-James Public Library, 923 1st Corso, Nebraska City, NE 68410

Kansas City, Kans. Kansas City Public Library (Main Branch, West Wyandotte, Turner, Argentine

and Schlagle Branches)

St. Louis, Mo. St. Louis Public Library (Main Branch, Central Express, Buder, Schlafly and

Julia Davis Branches)

BACKGROUND: Congress directed the Corps to conduct a study of the Missouri River projects within the basin to review the original project purposes based on the 1944 Flood Control Act to determine if changes to these purposes are warranted. The eight originally authorized purposes are flood control, hydropower, water supply, irrigation, navigation, recreation, water quality, and fish and wildlife. Infrastructure operated by both the Corps and Bureau of Reclamation is included in the study.

Individuals requiring assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act to participate in these meetings can contact mraps@usace.army.mil at least five days prior to a specific meeting. Those who use a telecommunications service for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) anytime at 800-877-8339 to relay this same information.

###